

Youth Orientation Q&A

January 9, 2015

Please Note: There was a discrepancy in the RFP as to where the Proposals and Best and Final Offers need to be submitted. The Proposals and Best and Final Offers should be sent to:

Delaware Workforce Development Board (DWDB) c/o DE Dept. of Labor,
Division of Employment & Training
3rd Floor – Attn: Ashley Francica
4425 N. Market Street
Wilmington, DE. 19802

Q1. Please define Comprehensive Guidance & Counseling?

A1. Comprehensive guidance and counseling is defined as a process of helping youth make and implement informed educational, occupational, and life choices. It includes imparting skills through counselor-directed learning opportunities that help youth achieve success through academic, career, personal, and social development.

Q2. If we offer a GED, can we partner with someone or would we need to hire an employee? Can we contract that service out?

A2. This answer is different than what was stated at the Orientation. GED instruction must be readily available – it does not necessarily have to be on-site. Proposer must thoroughly describe how GED instruction will be readily available. GED can be accomplished through partnership, direct employee or contracted services.

Q3. Are on-site online GED programs allowed?

A3. Yes

Q4. Please explain what is meant by 12 month follow up?

A4. Follow-up services are activities after completion of participation to monitor youths' success during their transition to employment and further education and to provide assistance as needed for a successful transition. Follow-up services must be provided for not less than 12 months after the completion of participation. The type and duration of services must be determined based on the needs of the youth.

Q5. If service exceeds program year, will we be paid for those services?

A5. Services that occur in the contract period are paid within the contract period. You cannot incur an expense outside of the specified contract period. If identified goals for a youth aren't met by the end of the contract period, those individuals will be considered a carry-in into the next contract period.

Q6. Referring back to the GED component, if we link with James Groves and arrangements are made for an instructor to come to our location, is this allowed?

A6. Yes

Q7. Who determines skills deficient?

A7. There is a standard definition for basic skills deficient. The term "basic skill deficient" means, with respect to an individual, that the individual has English reading, writing, or computing skills at or below the 8th grade level on a generally accepted standardized test or a comparable score on a criterion-referenced test. It is the proposers/contractors responsibility to determine if a youth is basic skills deficient.

Q8. Roman Numeral IV – Targeted Populations and Eligibility Criteria Related to Eligibility – is my understanding correct that a participant needs to meet 1, 2 then one category under #3?

A8. Yes

Q9. Who is the Executive Director if the DWDB?

A9. Gwendolyn Jones is the DWDB Director. Her contact information is as follows:

Gwendolyn.jones@state.de.us

(302) 761-8161

Q10. *On Page 7* (Priority-Not less than 20 percent of the funds allocated shall be used to provide paid and unpaid work experience that have as a component academic and occupational education, which may include – (i) summer employment opportunities and other employment opportunities available throughout the school year; (ii) pre-apprenticeship programs; (iii) internships and job shadowing; and (iv) on-the-job training opportunities) Are we expected to pay wages out of grant?

A10. Yes 20% of WIOA funds must be allocated to the work experience mandate.

Q11. Mandated Design Components, found on Page 6 under B references Indicators of Performance described in Section 116 (b) (A) (ii) - what are these indicators of performance?

A11. These indicators are the Youth Measures that contractors will be held accountable to meet beginning July 1, 2015.

The percentage of program participants who are in education or training activities, or in unsubsidized employment, during the second quarter after exit from the program.

The percentage of program participants who are in education or training activities, or in unsubsidized employment, during the fourth quarter after the exit from the program.

The median earnings of program of program participants who are in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after exit from the program.

The percentage of program participants who obtain a recognized postsecondary credential or a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, during participation in or within 1 year after exit from the program.

The percentage of program participants who, during a program year, are in an education or training program that leads to a recognized postsecondary credential or employment and who are achieving measurable skill gains toward such a credential or employment.

The indicators of effectiveness in serving employers (to be defined in 2016).

Q12. Is employment more important than post-secondary?

A12. No employment and education/training are equally important and both are allowable outcomes.

Q13. To join a professional organization, would that be considered a direct benefit?

A13. Direct benefits are used to enable the youth to continue participation in the program.

Please Note: An all-inclusive list of DOL/DET policy can be found at www.wib.delawareworks.com. Click on Department of Labor and scroll down to RFP Contract Services.

